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- Is it as long as it should be?
- Is it soft and glossy and full of life?
- Can you comb it out easily or is it full of tangles?
- Are you proud of your hair?

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50¢

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Nelson's Hair Dressing as we do you would never use anything else on your hair.

We want you to know it—

know it personally by actual use, don't take our word for it, or anyone else's,—test it yourself.

You can do this,

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Free of cost,

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Test them

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We have confidence

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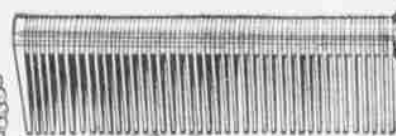
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They are usually sold for \$1.50 (one dollar and fifty cents) each complete. The only thing is to be careful in the purchase as there is no other comb that will answer the purposes so well as the Eureka. We wholesale the Eureka Comb, being the manufacturers and promoters, and are the only wholesalers of this special device; if there are others we would be pleased to be informed.

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THE NEGRO AND THE WEST

An Entertaining Account of the Recent Trip of the
Grand Master and Other Masonic
Dignitaries to the Far West.

NOTABLE PERSONS AND CITIES VISITED ON THE TOUR

By DR. M. O. RICKETTS, ST. JOSEPH, MO.
Past Grand Master of Masons.

CHAPTER V.

Since George had all of my cover I concluded to dress and go below in quest of the desired key. Just as I entered the hall preparatory to taking the first flight of elevators to the office, a stranger poked his head out of the door to room 14 and said in a dry, husky voice:

"Mister, if you are going to the office please ask the porter to bring me a cocktail right away."

I could see at a glance that this stranger was suffering, and realized from the unhesitating manner in which he prescribed for himself that his trouble was one of long standing, and that he knew the treatment best adapted to give the quickest relief. I valued my desire to be ethical, and did not stop to ask anything about his school of practice, but ordered his prescription filled. Later I saw the porter leaving his door with an empty glass, with the exception of a big red cherry which was in it, and I concluded the stranger did not think as well of the cherry as he thought of the spirit in which it was brought.

George believes that prevention is better than cure, and to guard against pneumonia he asked me to bring him something hot to drink. When I returned with the pass key I told him the cafe had not opened as yet and that I could not get coffee for him, but that I would light my spirit lamp and heat some water for him. I have never been able to account for the provocation which could have caused my erstwhile friend and brother to use the language he handed me. He claims to have been trying to tell me where to "get off," and if the climate to which he consigned me is half as fervid as his language I am sure to never have any trouble with my host of friends for whom George wanted to run an excursion to this perpetual Death Valley of the spirit world over anything hot.

The auto ride gave us an excellent opportunity of seeing Denver. We visited many places of interest and among them the fine city parks, the zoological garden and many of the important public buildings. The state museum was a place of great interest and had an attractive display of the natural resources of Colorado. Its mineral, game and fish display was to us wonderful, and especially interesting was the radium which we saw, or in the classic language of George W. K. Love, "manifestations of radio activity."

Our people are making progress along the lines of business. We saw several drug stores, two well equipped newspaper offices, an undertaking establishment, several doctors and lawyers. Our people are the owners of many of good homes and many pieces of valuable property. We saw the usual club, barber shop and pool hall, as well as restaurants and cleaning and pressing shops.

Grand Secretary Sprague is well known to many of our readers, and we want to say that his life in Denver has been one worthy of emulation. He owns a beautiful modern home besides five other properties which are income producers. Mr. Sprague has been in the employ of one firm for the last twenty-six years, and has worked himself up to a position of trust and remuneration.

Grand Master Rector is one of the really big men of Denver. While he was unfortunately born at a time when the gateway of opportunity was extremely narrow for men of his race and his educational advantages were limited to less than a week in school he has made good. The position of honor which his Grand Lodge has thrust upon him is being worn with dignity and credit to the Fraternity. Measuring the distance he has traveled from the point at which he started he has traveled far. Rector is eloquent and witty. He has the happy faculty of being caustic without being offensive. We called his attention to the failure to receive our Grand Master with Grand honors. He admitted the oversight and said he was glad I reminded him of it. He said he often had occasion to realize the truthfulness of the statement brought out in a story which he had heard, and then proceeded to tell the following:

"A preacher was trying to saw a piece of board and had great difficulty in doing so for the reason he could not hold the board in place. A foolish boy came along and told him if he would lay the board in a nearby trough he could saw it without trouble. He found that what the foolish boy said was true and turned to him and said: 'John I have often heard that you could learn something from a fool and now I believe it.' John said: 'It must be true for otherwise I could not account for the fact that a good many people go to your church.'"

We met the charming wife of Mr. Sprague and her sister who gave up teaching in Kansas City to take the cottage course in a home over which she presides as wife and mother. Mr. Howard the Master of Centennial Lodge and Bro. Hill, P.O.L., of the Grand Lodge of Colorado accompanied us on the trip about the city and were

very kind and attentive to us and gave us a fine opportunity for seeing a fine city. Denver is not the old time city which was on account of its growth and development causing all contenders to sit up and take notice. Everything indicates a going back. It is estimated there is seven thousand vacant houses and that thousands of people are leaving it annually. This condition has been caused by the labor agitation which has made of Colorado an armed camp for several years and by corrupt and grafting politicians who have fastened themselves like leeches upon this community until the life has been sucked out of it. Denver needs a general house cleaning and can never hope to recover until it has shaken off these leeches and installed a clean, honest and capable city government. Train time had arrived and were about to enter upon the last lap of a somewhat extended journey. As we boarded the Rock Island train and steamed out upon the broad plains of Eastern Colorado and Western Kansas we could not help recalling the famous home song of Olcott in which he sings:

"You ask me why tears arise,
To this poor wanderer eyes?
But when I hear that word so dear
Nothing can check these heartfelt tears.

Home, home, home, O that word so dear,
Home, home, home, be it ever so dear;

When all else fails to cheer and atone,
Look back to that old spot, home sweet home."

The trip was without incident except perhaps the fact that a young man of about twenty-four ran across Grand Master Crews and recalled the fact that when the Grand Master was a mere boy he used to be his companion and playmate. All this would have been romantic if it was not for the fact that the Grand Master admits forty-nine summers and unmentionable winters. It seems the young man was living in fear of universal prohibition and had made up his mind to get what was coming to him before such a calamity should overtake his race. The jack rabbits which they saw grew in number and size until one began to wonder just when the circus parade would start. We listened to their exchange of reminiscences which in each case grew more and more remarkable as the "For Family Use" grew less and less evident. As they talked I could not think of anything else but the Irish private who approached his captain and said: "Captain, I have just had a letter from my wife Biddy who is laying at the point of death and is pleading for me to come home if I want to see her alive again and I am axing you for a leave of absence." The captain said: "Pat, I am not going to give you the leave for the reason that I had a letter from your wife this morning telling me you wanted to come home to get drunk and for me to not let you come." Pat said: "Captain I would like to express my real opinion if it was not for the straps you are wearing on your shoulder." "Go ahead Pat I give you permission to say what you want to say regardless of the shoulder straps." "Then Captain, I am thinking that you and I are the two most illigant lars in the regiment because I have no wife at all."

Just out of Topeka something happened and we had to get a freight locomotive to pull us in, and from Topeka on we steadily lost time until the delay became unbearable. George called himself getting back to civilization and became nettled at the pace which was being set by the Rock Island. Kansas City is wonderful and I want to record the fact that we did not meet a person who had ever lived there who was not looking forward to the time when he could get back. We pulled into the Union Depot about two hours late and said good-bye and spoke the parting words. My story has been prosaic and dull and unimpeachable with fiction and having heard so much preaching from Crews and Love about the virtues of Kansas City that we are going to ask our readers to indulge us in just one little story to illustrate a point. It is said that a Hebrew died and went to heaven. After looking around at the sights and estimating the intrinsic value of the gold paved streets and the starry decked crowns he grew tired and lonesome and went up to Peter and asked him if he could show him where he could find a poker game. Peter told him to go to hell and save him a round trip ticket. He was not long in finding a hot poker game after his arrival and stood around begging the boys to stake him and let him in but they steadfastly refused to do so. Finally our Hebrew friend started out to see the sights. He soon returned and laid down a hundred dollars and asked for a stack of chips. His friends asked him how he realized so much money in such a short time and he told them he ran across a fool who purchased his return ticket to heaven. Hypothetically, let us suppose that theological dogmas could be so set at naught that George and the Grand Master should by some slip reach the glory land and found there some for-

mer friend with a return trip coupon to Kansas City, how long would it be before George and the Grand Master would be trying to get said return trip coupon away from said friend?

Before bidding adieu to the readers of The Sun, I desire to thank those who have paid me the compliment of following this mean story of a remarkable trip and to say I would be a supreme egotist should I attribute the fact to the story itself rather than to some degree of that partiality which has brought to me so many good and desirable things. I desire also to express my profound appreciation to the Grand Master for the opportunity to travel with such agreeable companions, and get the rest and recuperation and to study conditions among our people over such a broad range of country.

Santa Claus came into the home of one of my patrons on the night before Christmas and a little four-year-old was delighted with the things which were left. The stork went into the same home Christmas night and when the little fellow awoke and saw what the stork had left he turned to me and said: "Gee doctor, Santa Claus is good to me, comes every night."

"Thems my sentiments."



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